

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were previously pending in this patent application. Claims 1-35 stand rejected. Herein, Claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 have been amended.

Accordingly, after this Amendment and Response After Final Action, Claims 1-35 remain pending in this patent application. Further examination and reconsideration in view of the arguments set forth below is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) Rejections

Claims 1-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Vaithilingam et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,411,724 (hereafter Vait). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 1 recites:

A method of forming a semantic description for content data, comprising the steps of:

- a) retrieving one or more of a plurality of component semantic descriptions stored remotely from said content data according to reference information associated with said content data; and
- b) ***generating said semantic description for said content data using said one or more component semantic descriptions and said reference information associated with said content data, wherein said semantic description describes an underlying meaning of said content data.*** (emphasis added)

It is respectfully asserted that Vait does not disclose the present invention as recited in Independent Claim 1. In particular, Vait is directed to retrieving from a multimedia repository multimedia information (i.e., content data) using meta-descriptors in addition to descriptors by a query method. [Vait; Abstract]. In Vait, a descriptor is a representation of a feature, a feature being a distinctive characteristic of multimedia information (i.e., content data), while a meta-descriptor is information about the descriptor. [Vait; Abstract]. For example, descriptors for a still image may include color, shape, and texture. [Vait; Col. 5, lines 7-8]. Additionally, meta-

descriptors may take the form of a binary vector X or a string notation where each character in the string indicates the relevance of a feature in accordance with a predefined standard notation. [Vait; Col. 6, line 46 through Col. 7, line 6].

Also, Figure 1 provides examples of various forms of multimedia data (i.e., content data), but does not describe reference data associated with the content data. Moreover, Vait does not describe generating a semantic description for content data using one or more component semantic descriptions and the reference information associated with the content data, wherein the semantic description describes an underlying meaning of the content data.

Unlike Vait, Independent Claim 1 is directed to a method of forming a semantic description for content data, whereas the method includes retrieving one or more of a plurality of component semantic descriptions stored remotely from the content data according to reference information associated with the content data, and generating the semantic description for the content data using the one or more component semantic descriptions and the reference information associated with the content data, wherein the semantic description describes an underlying meaning of the content data. While Vait is directed at retrieving the content data using descriptors and meta-descriptors (as defined above), Independent Claim 1 is directed to a generating a semantic description for content data using one or more component semantic descriptions and the reference information associated with the content data, wherein the semantic description describes an underlying meaning of the content data. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 1 is not anticipated by Vait and is in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims 2-9 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 1, which is allowable over Vait. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 2-9 are patentable over Vait for the reasons discussed above.

With respect to Independent Claim 10, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 10 recites similar limitations as in Independent Claim 1. In particular, the computer-executable instructions stored in the memory device of the computer system of Independent Claim 10 perform a method that includes generating a semantic description for content data using one or more component semantic descriptions and the reference information associated with the content data, wherein the semantic description describes an underlying meaning of the content data. Therefore, Independent Claim 10 is allowable over Vait for reasons discussed in connection with Independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 11-18 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 10, which is allowable over Vait. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 11-18 are patentable over Vait for the reasons discussed above.

With respect to Independent Claim 19, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 19 recites similar limitations as in Independent Claim 1. In particular, the semantic description for content data of Independent Claim 19 is formed using one or more component semantic descriptions and the reference information associated with the content data, wherein the semantic description describes an underlying meaning of the content data. Therefore, Independent Claim 19 is allowable over Vait for reasons discussed in connection with Independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 20-27 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 19, which is allowable over Vait. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 20-27 are patentable over Vait for the reasons discussed above.

With respect to Independent Claim 28, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 28 recites similar limitations as in Independent Claim 1. In particular, the method of Independent Claim 28 includes generating a semantic description for content data using one or more component semantic descriptions, wherein the semantic description describes an underlying meaning of the content data. Therefore, Independent Claim 28 is allowable over Vait for reasons discussed in connection with Independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 29-35 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 28, which is allowable over Vait. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 29-35 are patentable over Vait for the reasons discussed above.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments, arguments and remarks overcome all rejections and objections. For at least the above presented reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all remaining claims (Claims 1-35) are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

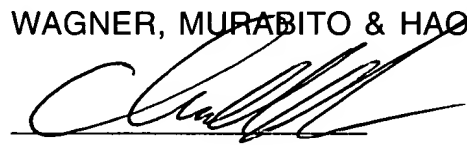
Please charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 23-0085.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: _____

2/17/2004



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